Docket No. 1232-5780

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Osamu ITOKAWA Confirmation No.: 6038 Serial No.: 10/563,038 Group Art Unit: 2809

Filed: December 30, 2005 Examiner: M. A. STRIEB

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For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE

PROCESSING METHOD

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, entry of the following Second Preliminary

Amendment is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.